

State Board of Education
May 19, 2009
Item O

Team: Transformation and ARRA

Discussion Topic: Transformation and ARRA: Using Short-Term Funds to Support Long-Term Change

Alignment with Goals: Transformation of Education in Vermont

Background Information:

As Transformation efforts within the DOE and schools are implemented, it is important for everyone to consider the great potential in ARRA funds supporting these efforts. Communication regarding the potential role for ARRA to support this work will focus both inside the Department of Education as well as on schools/districts.

Purpose of Discussion:

To provide Board members with an overview and an opportunity for comments and questions on the integration of the Transformation initiative and ARRA

Cost Implications: N/A

Staff Available: Armando Vilaseca; Bill Romond; Rae Ann Knopf; Kay Charron

Transformation and ARRA – Using Short Term Funds to Support Long Term Change – Revised May 8, 2009

Vermont Education Transformation Overarching Goals/Work	1/1/08 – 12/31/08	1/1/09 – 12/31/09	1/1/10 – 12/31/11
<p>Vision Building: Establish Mission and Goals to work toward Transformation vision internally and externally</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Ex. State, local and national communications – memos, articles, editorials, conference presentations, white papers, grants 	<p>Draft vision, mission, and goals; Refine/define with partners/public</p>	<p>Maintain, communicate & support internally & externally</p>	<p>Maintain, communicate & support internally & externally</p>
<p>Policy for Transformation – Identify critical policy areas that will advance transformation and implement at state level. Identify and communicate local leveraging policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Ex. Policies, rules, legislation – Policy Commission 		<p>Adopt vision, research best practice, identify critical policy levers, Recommend policy changes to SBE</p>	<p>SBE proposes Transformation Act to legislature; Reviews/amends board rules</p>
<p>Internal to DOE: Establish systems and culture within DOE to advance transformation – review existing ways of working, services provided & desired outcomes for work with schools; make changes to align with methods & models demonstrated to facilitate change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Ex. State-wide longitudinal (PK-16) data systems □ Ex. Organizing DOE leadership and support to drive transformational change efforts □ Ex. Integrating and/or refining monitoring systems – i.e. SQS, Focused monitoring, Title I monitoring, Financial Auditing 	<p>Begin discussion of Transformation; initiate efforts toward aligning work with Transformation; establish internal working groups.</p>	<p>Examine, refine, and communicate role of DOE in support of transformation; Create a plan to focus DOE work on Transformation and make necessary changes in working relationships (culture), leadership structure, and content; Communicate and support plan; Reframe grants and funding streams. Revised applications and guidance Monitor the work and use of funds</p>	<p>Using evaluation, adjust and continue to implement plan as indicated</p>
<p>ARRA: <i>Establish systems to manage funds and facilitate accountability requirements.</i></p> <p><i>Work across DOE divisions, with practitioners, legislators, and external organizations to identify practices and strategies that will create long term transformation and benefit using short term funding opportunities.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>4/01/09 – 12/31/09</i></p> <p><i>Review guidance from USDOE on ARRA funds. DOE collaborates with the State Office of Economic Recovery (ESR) to define the application, dispensation and reporting process, implement and test systems.</i></p> <p><i>DOE works with House Education Committee on amendment to appropriations bill H.441 in support of DOE in providing guidance and consultation to schools in using funds to implement evidence based practices and advance transformative efforts.</i></p> <p><i>Provide guidance to the field through multiple mediums to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ <i>Facilitate efficient processes for obtaining and reporting use of funds</i> □ <i>Facilitate effective use of funds to create long term improvement with short term funding.</i> □ <i>Disburse funds.</i> 		<p><i>Systems in place, funds available, reporting and monitoring on-going, adjust system as indicated.</i></p>

Vermont Education Transformation Overarching Goals/Work	1/1/08 – 12/31/08	1/1/09 – 12/31/09	1/1/10 – 12/31/11
Provide direct support and technical assistance to schools/districts on Transformation work <input type="checkbox"/> Ex. Align programs under Transformation vision: School Support, Student Support, Technical Assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Ex. Using funding to drive change – ARRA, existing grants and contracts, BEST, Act 230, Act 117, IDEA, Title funds	Involve representatives from schools/districts in initial discussions.	Provide research-based information, resources, and models; Identify & disseminate promising VT models; Broker connections among educators; Communicate DOE reframing of grants & funding streams to leverage transformation.	Continually develop and build on successful models; Use evaluation to adjust and continue to implement plan
ARRA: <i>Establish internal and external systems to manage increased need/requests for TA and ITA (intensive technical assistance) in school improvement and implementing evidence based practices to promote educational transformation.</i>	<div>4/1/09 – 12/31/09</div> <i>Provide guidance to field on use of evidence based practices and effective use of ARRA funds to support that work.</i> <i>Organize within DOE to complete work including where indicated, increasing capacity in response to school need for school improvement support & coordination, evidence based practice consultation.</i> <i>Further develop ITA models and expand capacity through local and regional partnerships to facilitate scaling up.</i>		<i>Continue to develop state-wide system of support and implementation of transformative practices in Vermont Schools.</i>
Formalize partnerships & focused collaboration with external entities around Transformation. <input type="checkbox"/> Ex. State-wide longitudinal (PK-16) data systems <input type="checkbox"/> Ex. Intrastate organization and collaboration around evidence based practices for sustainable education systems change – DOE, VSA, VPA, VTNEA, VBA, Higher Ed, HEC, NERC, VTSBE, VTSBA <input type="checkbox"/> Ex. Interstate organization for national education systems reform to respond to global need and lead world change – NESSC, Race to the Top Grant, Common Core Standards NE collaboration <input type="checkbox"/> Ex. Interstate organization for national education systems reform to respond to global need and lead world change – NESSC, Race to the Top Grant, Common Core Standards NE collaboration <input type="checkbox"/> Ex. Using funding to drive change – ARRA, existing grants and contracts, BEST, Act 230, Act 117, IDEA, Title funds	Continue vision work; Build relationships re: transformation with critical partners both within VT and external.	Intrastate: Build statewide momentum and common vision; Work with partners to identify their roles in supporting Transformation; Focus on leadership, professional development, and educator quality. Interstate: Implement New England Secondary School consortium (NESSC).	Build proposal for Phase Two of NESSC; Move available resources through that effort to schools under “Hot House” or revised model; Use evaluation to adjust and continue to implement plan.
ARRA: <i>Form partnerships and focused collaboration with external entities around Transformation and one time ARRA</i>	<div>4/1/09-12/31/09</div> <i>Establish critical partners and define working relationships to further transformative efforts.</i> <i>Further develop systems to monitor ARRA Assurances.</i>		<i>Deliver intensive technical assistance to schools.</i> <i>Monitor progress against</i>

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<i>opportunity.</i>	<i>Deliver support and intensive technical assistance to schools.</i>		<i>assurances.</i>
<i>Respond to competitive grant opportunities</i>	<i>Establish partnerships and support for applications:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Race to the Top</i> ▪ <i>Longitudinal data systems</i> ▪ <i>Innovation & What Works</i> ▪ <i>Teacher Quality Enhancement</i> ▪ <i>Teacher incentives</i> <i>Develop and submit applications. Work with other states in advancing NESSC work through Race to the Top proposal.</i>		<i>Do the work</i>
Evaluate effectiveness of all systems above and progress toward Transformation goals.	Establish systems. Identify or create new metrics for monitoring progress.	Refine current systems & expand as possible.	Use data to inform progress, make plan modifications.
ARRA: <i>Evaluate effectiveness of all systems above and progress toward goals of Transformation and ARRA assurances</i>	<div style="text-align: right;"><i>4/1/09 – 12/31/09</i></div> <i>Identify measures (see below & others) to evaluate progress.</i> <i>Assess current systems and develop.</i> <i>Refine current systems and expand as possible.</i>		<i>Use data to inform progress, make plan modifications.</i>
Modify objectives and strategies as indicated.	Communicate.	Communicate; Implement/Evaluate.	Adjust as indicated.